

**The Abstract is amended as follows:**

An ink cartridge is detachably connected to a record head and has a plurality of ink storage chambers 11 (containing third ink storage chamber 17) for containing ink whose concentration gradient occurs and an ink flow passage 18 for making the ink storage chambers communicate with each other. The ink flow passage 18 is implemented as such an ink flow passage where ink in a high-concentration ink layer a formed in a lower area in the ink storage chamber 11 and ink in a low-concentration ink layer b formed in an upper area flow and merge as ink is supplied to the record head.

~~(FIG. 5)~~